



Environmental Program

U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers,
Huntsville Center

F A C T S H E E T

Background:

In 1986, Congress established the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) to:

- Identify, investigate, and remove hazardous contaminants at sites owned or operated by the Department of Defense.
- Correct environmental damage (such as removal of contaminated soil)
- Demolish and remove unsafe buildings and structures.

Huntsville Center's primary facility support to DERP is the Installation Restoration Program (IRP). The program addresses contamination resulting from past operations at active installations.

Mission:

The Huntsville Center Facilities Support Division provides project design and environmental services focusing on studies and remediation at IRP and Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) sites. Huntsville Center supports the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), and also provides environmental services for others, such as Corps Districts. Support provided to DLA is outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding between Huntsville Center and the DLA. Under that agreement, Huntsville Center's Facilities Support Division acts as central manager, executing CERCLA/RCRA phases; performing Environmental Compliance Assessments Surveys (ECAS); establishing Environmental Management Systems (EMS); and managing programmatic integration of site data, schedules and budgets.

Process:

When a site is identified as a possible DERA IRP candidate, a multi-phase process towards environmental remediation begins. The first phase is a *Preliminary Assessment (PA)*. That phase determines whether evidence exists indicating environmental contamination might be present at the site. If the PA indicates the need, a *Site Investigation (SI)* is performed. The SI identifies all locations on the site with potential for containing contaminants. If site conditions warrant further study, a *Remedial Investigation (RI)* is performed. In that phase the extent, types, and progress of contaminants are studied in detail. Following the RI, a *Feasibility Study (FS)* is performed to determine viable technical solutions for a given location on the site. Once regulatory concurrence is reached, a Record of Decision (ROD) is prepared to document a clean-up decision. Selection of the best technical approach is followed by the

Remedial Design (RD) phase,



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when engineers develop a remediation system and plan. After the design is approved, the *Remedial Action Construction* (RAC) phase begins, under management of a geographic Corps District. Huntsville Center provides oversight of remedial actions. In projects such as the application of groundwater treatment systems, the RAC phase can extend through operations and maintenance until the location is no longer considered hazardous. The final phase is *Long-Term Monitoring*. During that phase, the location is periodically re-examined to determine progress towards normalization. Huntsville Center also provides support for a multi-level storage and retrieval system, called a “centralized Environmental Data Management System (EDMS).” The Center also performs compliance assessments of DLA installations, and asbestos abatement surveys.

Customers

Huntsville Center’s environmental mission provides support to clients located from New York to California. Currently, the Center provides services to the following DoD sites:

Defense Depot Memphis, Tennessee
Defense Supply Center Richmond, Virginia
Defense Depot Susquehanna, Pennsylvania
Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, California
Seneca Army Depot Activity, New York
Approximately 30 Defense National Stockpile Center (DNSC) sites nationwide

Information:

For more information concerning environmental remediation activities at the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, call the Environmental Program Manager, at (256) 895-1463.